Seniorpreneurship
Steve Allan

Steve Allan is an active member of the Calgary Downtown Club. He is past president of that Club (1994/95) and served as District 5360 Governor in 2009/10. Among many other accomplishments, he is a Fellow of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Alberta. He has served as President of the Calgary Stampede, having been a volunteer in that organization since 1974.

Steve spoke on the new initiative to honour active members of our community who continue to either expand or start new initiatives after the age of 70. Calgary Economic Development chair Steve Allan, is co-chairing the ‘Top 7 Over 70’ steering committee with Bonnie DuPont and Brian Felesky.

Seniorpreneurship: Don’t retire - rewire
A gala event was held on October 2 to present the awards for the first time. The initial recipients were:

- Dr. Richard Guy (Citation of Unique Merit) — Gerry Miller
- Marjorie Zingle — Al Muirhead
- Amin Ghali — Vera Goodman
- Vera Goodman — Alan Ferguson

Info on each of the recipients and program sponsors can be found at: www.top7over70.com

And yes there are 8 individuals on the list. Dr. Guy became the first 1 over 100, being 101 years old/young. cont’d on page 2 ...

100 Men Who Give a Damn!
Alex Putici

Our speaker, Alex Putici grew up on a farm near Taber Alberta before moving to Lethbridge. He worked as a door-to-door salesman, selling alarm systems across Canada and the USA. He calls himself a loving husband, entrepreneur, community builder and student of life. His life motto is from Zig Ziegler “If you help enough other people to get what they want, you will get what you want”.

Alex is the co-founder of 100 Men Who Give a Damn! — Calgary. Their web information is as follows:

The goal of the group is to support the wonderful work our local charities do, in funds, exposure and awareness. The plan is simple: gather 100+ cont’d on page 4 ....
February 27th George K and Pat H
March 6th Tammy and Bill C
March 13th Imma and Neil
March 20th Evening meeting
March 27th Michael and Ian
April 3rd Dave Wylie and Garth P
April 10th Dean and David I
April 17th Dick and David Wartman
April 24th Evening Meeting

Members and Guests were met at the door by the dynamic duo of Jim Hennessy and Rob ‘The Pool Boy’ Wolfson.

Rob must be tired of his nickname as he was trying out for a new one by handing out long-stem roses to all the women in attendance (did Angela put you up to this Rob?).

President Alex opened the meeting promptly at 12:15pm, and as our pianist Ruth was absent, Rob stepped up to the mike and... No he did not lead us in song as George Van Schaick frequently does, but resorted to electronics — through the magic of his iPhone, he led us in O Canada (one or other of the versions) and Rotary Grace.

Following a great meal, President Alex called the meeting back to order. Rob Wolfson stepped up to introduce our guests including 3 Friends of the Club, past member Will Schmidt, speaker Steve Allan and 4 Calgary South members. The electronic tunes were played as we sang our usual welcome.

We were then assailed by a raft of Minutemen. First up being Jim Hennessy with one last chance for members to agree to host one of the Rotary Friendship Exchange team members from South Africa or Peru (July 1 through 16th). Next up was Rhea Graham with a card for all of us to sign for our Honorary Member Marg Southern, to congratulate her on being one of the “150 Calgary Women”. Dale Perret reminded us about the upcoming Rotaract Hitmen Hockey event, and gave us early notice.

Photos courtesy George Van Schaick

**Scribe/Editor’s Note - Week #2:** There must be something about sitting down at the computer to do a write up for the ARCH! The weather takes a turn for the worse. Pulled out my notes and got comfortable to write, and wham! the wind is up with wildly blowing snow. One would think I was at an Olympic skiing event! I better get busy and finish up my scribbling so the weather can improve, and I can go back to dreaming about RV adventures in the spring. It seems that if you want an early spring, you’d better lobby David Irving to find a replacement for me as scribe ... time to see if my notes were any better this week.
about an upcoming food prep event at the Drop In Centre. Rob Wolfson came next with information on the February 15th Networking Night at Limericks, and the upcoming Membership Mix ‘N Mingle Night (evening meeting - March 20th).

Next up was George Van Schaick as the SAA (did you take a selfie George?). He first fined 4 members who were able to attend Rotary Curling, but failed to attend last week’s meeting the morning after. Too much practising for the bonspiel after-game event guys? He also fined new member Imma for not filling in her meeting attendance/meal card making it difficult for him to record attendance. There were three other such culprits, but he did not have a way to identify them, whereas with Imma, he had photographic evidence (you three know who you are, so please make an appropriate donation to the pot). He then went on to test our current Olympic knowledge that was a bit spotty but not too bad. Good News/Bad News came from Al Pettigrew on the occasion of his mother’s 103rd birthday, Pat Hutchinson on the activities of his “super” model granddaughter, and Bob Montgomery informed us about the impact of frozen ice in one’s car wheels.

Bart Dailley then came up to introduce our speaker Steve Allan.

The goal of the program is to recognize that you are never too old to experiment, excel, enrich your life and engage in your community. Seniors are accomplishing a wide variety of things in a variety of fields in our city, and these contributions should not be overlooked.

To investigate this economic impact, Top 7 Over 70 organizers commissioned a report from the Canada West Foundation. Results show that engaging more seniors in entrepreneurship — with their resources, experience and connections — provides an exciting opportunity to create jobs and revitalize Calgary. It also could mean better health and well-being for seniors.

One result of Calgary’s economic downturn is an increased focus on entrepreneurship and innovation. The non-profit program will also raise funds for multi-generational mentorship opportunities. Calgary Economic Development will create programs to match the resources, experience, connections and wisdom of seniors through mentorship opportunities with budding entrepreneurs and innovators. This can be an enormous boost for the startups — which often struggle due to a lack of experience, knowledge and resources — and an enormous boost for seniors who will be energized through a sense of achievement and satisfaction.

After questions from the floor, President Alex thanked Steve Allan and presented him with our Polio Plus Speaker Certificate.

Seniorpreneurship

Rotaract Club Hitmen Game

Saturday, March 3rd starting at 7 pm
Fundraising event, in support of WINS (Women In Need) and other charities that Rotaract supports.

There will be a sign up sheet at the lunch meetings. We encourage you to bring your spouse / partner, children / grandchildren to the event. If you can’t attend but would like to support Rotaract — they will use your tickets for underprivileged individuals who cannot afford to participate in these events.

If you won’t be at the lunches to sign up and want to be part of this social, email me at dale.rotary@shaw.ca

Come be part of the fun night !!
men in a room with three local charities, listen to their messages, vote for one, then each member writes a $100 cheque to that charity. Repeat quarterly.

The result is that one charity walks away with $10,000+, and every member receives a charitable tax receipt and the great feeling from having done something BIG with just $100.

100 Men Who Give A Damn! – Calgary is a non-organization. We are not registered; we have no directors, officers or treasurer; we have no bank account because we don’t collect, spend or donate anything — it’s our members who make the donations. The group and its events are run on a budget of zero by a core team of big-hearted volunteers and with the assistance of some very generous sponsors, who coincidentally also give a damn.

If you are a guy who cares about your community...
If you want to be part of a powerful group of men which is committed to make a BIG impact...
If you want to mix and mingle with the community leaders of today and tomorrow...
If you want to learn more about the amazing work our local charities do...
If you want 100% of your donation to go directly to a local charity...
... then maybe you give a damn too.

Alex went through the details and answered questions from the floor on the organization. Besides providing a means to donate, it also provides members, who are from all walks of life, to get to know each other better, building friendships and networking.

If you are interested in checking the group out a bit more, the next 100 Men meeting is:
March 13th, at 6 pm
Location is the Tool Shed Pub
801 30th Street NE, Calgary, AB  T2A 5L7
Phone  403-775-1749

President Alex thanked the speaker and presented him with a Polio Plus certificate.

Proposed New Members

The following new Member proposal was accepted by the Board for membership in the Rotary Club of Calgary Chinook:

WILLIAM SCHMIDT
Sponsor: Tammy Truman
Classification: Hotel Management, retired

The following new “Friends of Rotary” Member proposal was accepted by the Board for membership in the Rotary Club of Calgary Chinook:

JEFFREY BEATTY
Sponsor: Neil Beatty

In accordance with Club Bylaws, Article XI, Section 5:
Method of electing New Members
“If no written objection to the proposal, stating reasons, is received by the Board from any member (other than Honourary) of the Club within seven (7) dates following publication of information about the prospective member, that person, upon payment of admission fee (if not Honourary membership) as prescribed in the bylaws, shall be considered to be elected to membership. If any such objection has been filed with the Board, it shall vote on this matter at its next meeting. If approved despite the objection, the proposed member, upon payment of the admission fee, shall be considered to be elected to membership.”

Paul Gaudet, Secretary
403-278-1029 • ch rotary .secretary@gmail.com
Well ... “Wasn’t that a party?”!! Approximately 60 of us, Chinook Rotarians and spouses, made it through the gently falling snow and slush-rutted side streets to the warm and inviting home of the Tonkinsons. Bev had her box of slippers handy and Anthony was behind the bar pouring your first drink (pop, wine, beer or a shot from the massive bottle of scotch).

The conversations and fellowship were lively. We should have brought skates to head out back and do a loop around the lake! The stack of pizzas soon arrived — 31.5 of them (and the .5 was?). The 10 or so leftover pizzas (full and partial) were handed out to those departing. Liquid consumption included 60+ beers, and 6 red and 4 white wine, not counting member wine contributions, and pop.

Dawn, Moe, Neil, Alex and Peter all receive special thanks for their assistance in various tasks through the evening. Hank, Jim and Al were there to spontaneously serenade us with songs from their youth. As one ages, participation in “wine women and song” becomes more difficult, so perhaps give up singing?

It being Olympics time, the big screen TV was on so the addicts without PVRs at home could watch skating and other events.

The only issue was Jim Hennessey’s little white Toyota always blocking someone in, and his slow response to moving it (he being engrossed in beer, pizza and singing I guess).

It all wrapped up with the final stragglers making their way home after midnight, leaving Bev and Anthony time to pack for their Africa trip.

A HUGE thank-you to the Tonkinsons for hosting this event for a second time. All in attendance had a great time. And the next event will be when???

by Stephen Pick
We were met at the door by 50% of a greeter team. Garth Sabirsh was doing a yeoman job of handling the task on his own. The greeter schedule in the previous week’s publication shows a “Paul G” as the non-show greeter — perhaps the SAA can identify this individual for proper recognition.

President Alex opened the meeting at 12:17, and with the help of George Van Schaick led us in O Canada and Rotary Grace. The fellowship then began over a meal of chicken caesar salad or steak and potatoes.

12:45 came and went, and then our solo Greeter Garth was invited up to introduce our 5 guests.

President Alex informed the Club that we had made the final $10,000 instalment on our $50,000 commitment to the Rotary Mattamy Greenway project. To offset this, he also informed us that we had received $68,301 from our last Casino shifts, and he thanked the organizers and volunteers who made this fund raising effort possible.

There being no Minutemen, Pat Hutchinson then reported on the status of Keith Hanson and Ernie Hawrylyshen.

Ryan MacLean won the 50/50 draw.

Bob Montgomery then attended the podium to dispense fines and raise funds for the Club.

His first focus was on our new members Imma, Jean and Michael (lucky for Jean he was absent, but you can run, but not hide from SAA Bob!).

He fined members who had not met and introduced themselves to Imma, Michael Spears for having an extra “s” in his name, Stephen for having the gall to have made edits (much needed?) to his last month scribe notes, all members for having access to a great ARCH, and Will Schmidt for having too big a pension so the hotel could not afford to heat the place, and a few other items.

There were no Good News or Bad News bucks.

Bart Dailey then rose and introduced the speaker Alex Putici of 100 Men Who Give A Damn!
What’s Up!!

Vocational Service Month
February 27th  —  Josh Traptow — Calgary Heritage Authority

Water and Sanitation Month
March 2nd  —  Roots 2 STEM Mentoring Program for Fairview School students
March 3rd  —  Rotaract Club Hitmen game in support of WINS at 7pm
March 6th  —  Dr. Ron Barlot — Sports Injuries
March 8th  —  Cribbage Night @ The Legion — contact Peter Bickham
March 9th  —  Roots 2 STEM Mentoring Program for Fairview School students
March 13th  —  Trevor Bacque — The History of Wheat
March 13th  —  Curling Wind-Up
March 20th  —  Chinook Rotary Membership Mix ‘N Mingler — evening meeting, 5:30 - 7pm
March 22nd  —  Cribbage Night @ The Legion — contact Peter Bickham
March 27th  —  Tara Nelson, CTV 6pm News Anchor

Maternal and Child Health Month
April 3rd  —  Bob Henderson, President, Wild Horses of Alta Society
April 6th  —  Roots 2 STEM Mentoring Program for Fairview School students
April 10th  —  Maria de la Ploma Villasenor Vargas, Mexican Counsul
April 14th  —  Cribbage Windup and Trophy Night @ The Legion — contact Peter Bickham
April 17th  —  Kimberly Williams, MRU — Booze, Broads and Brothers
April 24th  —  Evening meeting — Annual Youth Services Night
April 27th  —  Roots 2 STEM Mentoring Program for Fairview School students

Youth Service Month
May 1st  —  Katie Graham, Alberta Speleological Society
May 8th  —  John Hufnagel, President and GM, Calgary Stampeder

As our club approaches its 41st Anniversary of receiving its charter from RI, I pause to reflect on the early years, as one of the last 4 remaining charter members. At this time, the preservation of member numbers in clubs throughout the RI world are of concern but not an unusual event. In 1979 we attended the RI annual convention in Rome, accompanied by Charter President Greg McLellan — he of the Catholic faith was a super guide to all that is the Vatican. He did get pick-pocketed in the Systine chapel, but that’s another story.

The point I am trying to make is that the trip to Rome was organized by the Nanton and Claresholm clubs, for any and all district travellers interested, and then the two clubs folded shortly after, the lack of members the reason. Disaster, yes but we all moved on and actually half a dozen new clubs were formed in Calgary afterwards, that still exist today. Interesting? I think it is, as the city was about half the population it is today. Population doesn’t appear to be the issue anywhere in RI world, the attitude of the current generation more likely the issue.

At the start, our club was struggling with establishing goals, membership size expectations, fellowship activities to please the all male membership, permanent meeting location, and maintaining the membership in the defined territory of our club. Many members represented various businesses in Chinook Centre and the retail businesses of Macleod Trail. As all male members, the fellowship was focussed on activities that appealed to that demographic. I was fortunate to have a recreation home in the Invermere area of BC. We developed a relationship with the Invermere Rotary club which quickly evolved into an annual inter-club Golf Tournament, the Kootenay Klassic, enhanced with a softball baseball challenge (we got our asses kicked regularly), and of course the other fellowship activities that go with spending 2 or more days at our home. The fellowship grew in numbers, fortunately Jim Costello (PP 78/79) and John McBean (PP 01/02) provided a couple of large motorhomes for billeting the extra participants parked in our driveway. These were great fun activities, fully engaging several days. The ski trips to Panorama followed, with just our members, but we all stayed at the ski hill, initially in Norm Russell’s mountain home, and later in two cabins rented on the ski hill. We were accident free for more than a decade, with the exception of a minor injury — Tom Alexander slipped on ice in the parking lot and cracked a couple of ribs falling on the box checkers he was carrying! Anthony Tonkinson did a fairly exciting face plant on spring corn snow, giving him the short term look of a face peel patient!!

The history of this club is well documented through most of its over 40 year history, by the Past Presidents providing records of their terms of service. Only 2 years have not been accounted for. The records are stored, at Moe Tynan’s business, after about 30 years stored at my office, and I remain the History Chairman. I am now looking for some other member to assume the role and carry on the collection, and storing of our memories. We do encourage members to go through the records, awards and other items we have accumulated, in a library take-out way, to perhaps garner info that may help with various committees, then they can be returned and stored for future member reference.

Yes, we are thoroughly enjoying this winter’s escape to Arizona (I am not going to gloat), and I can assure you that Rotary clubs everywhere are experiencing membership decline. The ones here love the arrival of Rotary snowbirds, which boosts their numbers considerably for the season!
The Rotary Foundation again received the highest rating - a four star award - from the Charity Navigator rating agency. It has achieved this level for multiple years.

This is the 101st year of existence for the RI Foundation doing good in the world.

Many of our Club’s projects have benefited from support from the Foundation providing matching funds to amplify our project funding multiple times.

The Arch is published a couple of times a month. Please forward any items for inclusion to Stephen Pick.